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INTERIM REPORT ON THE HEALTH  
AND SANITARY  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF  
THE DISTRICT.



For the Year ended 31st December, 1942.

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Medical Officer of Health - John Cleminson, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.S.H.

Sanitary Inspector - R.C. Ford, L.S.I.A.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Congleton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and sanitary circumstances of your area for the year 1942. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, this Report is still issued in the curtailed form.

The health of your district during the past year has been satisfactory and there are no particular items which call for special comment.

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the kindly help which I have received from the Council and Officials during the year under review.



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# SECTION A.

## Statistics and Social Conditions.

The customary notes on social conditions are not requested by the Ministry of Health for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	12,250		
						<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live Births (Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	164	82	82
(Illegitimate.	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	4	0	4
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid 1941 -						14.2		

This compares with a rate of 15.8 per 1,000 of the population in England and Wales.

Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 22.9

### Infantile Mortality.

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :-

						<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	0

This gives an infantile mortality rate of 47.0 per 1,000 live births.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	42.7		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	156.6		
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths	...	151	80	71
Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	-	12.3		

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year :-

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
Influenza	1	1	2
Measles	0	0	0
Acute Polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	0	0	0
Acute In. encephalitis	0	0	0
Cancer of buc. cav. & oesoph. (M) uterus (F)	1	0	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	4	7
Cancer of breast	0	1	1
Cancer of all other sites	6	5	11
Diabetes	0	1	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	12	8	20
Heart disease	13	17	30
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	2	3
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Other respiratory disease	0	2	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	0	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	1	3
Appendicitis	2	1	3
Other digestive disease	1	2	3
Nephritis	1	0	1
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	0	0	0
Other maternal causes	0	0	0
Premature birth	0	0	0
Congenital malformation, birth inj., infant dis.	2	1	3
Suicide	2	1	3
Road traffic accidents	5	2	7
Other violent causes	1	1	2
All other causes	17	11	28
	80	71	151



Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :-

	No. of Deaths.
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0
Other Maternal Causes	<u>0</u>
	<u>0</u>

The Maternal Mortality is Nil per 1,000 live and still birhts.

The camparitive figure for England and Wales is 2.01 per 1,000 live and still births.

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires comment and there does not appear to be any occupation having a prejudicial effect on health.

### SECTION B.

#### General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The Old Rectory at Astbury is still used as a Hostel for evacuee children who are not suitable for ordinary billets.

There has been no change from the nursing facilities reported last year.

### SECTION C.

#### Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

##### Water Supply.

Most domestic properties in the Rural District which are within a reasonable distance of the water mains have now been connected to supply. These increased demands have worsened the position at the Council's Now Cop Pumping Station where the water levels have constantly receded. The pumps were lowered to their maximum depth during the summer, giving a slight margin of reserve. This margin has now been reduced and "danger point" has again been reached.

It is imperative, therefore, that an additional source of supply should be sought and to this end arrangements have been made for 100,000 gallons of water per day to be taken from the Alinger Urban District Council. This will ease the position but it is considered that the quantity is insufficient to permit of much improvement in the borehole levels.

##### Sewerage.

At the request of property owners in the Lawton Avenue district of the Church Lawton Parish, the Council have acknowledged liability for the maintenance of the small sewage disposal installation for the private estate which was developed some years ago. The installation is in good condition and consists of a tank and revolving distributor.

The works at Holmes Chapel, as previously stated, are over-worked and require additional tanks, filters and sludge drying beds.

Sludge drying beds are urgently needed at the Odd Rode Sewage Disposal Works and should be provided as soon as circumstances permit.

Sewerage schemes are required for the Parishes of Goostrey, Newbold Astbury and the Mount Pleasant area of the Parish of Odd Rode.

##### Closet Accommodation.

No. of conversions from conservancy system to water carriage - 4

No. of houses on conservancy system in built-up areas, including  
353 in Townships referred to above, as being in need of  
improved sewerage disposal facilities .... - 487

Public Cleansing.

There has been no change in the arrangements for public cleansing.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

No. of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector	-	924
No. of defects remedied	-	427

SECTION D.Housing.

The customary table of activities under the Housing Acts is omitted.

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of service of informal notice	...	...	...	...	...	23
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served under the Housing Acts requiring repairs and which were rendered fit after service of such informal notice	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	30
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of such notice	..	...	...	...	...	36
No. of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

SECTION E.Inspection and Supervision of Food.Milk Supply.

No. of Registered Producers in the Area	...	...	...	...	451
No. of Accredited Producers in the Area	...	...	...	...	275

During the year 3 cowsheds were re-conditioned and 4 dairies altered.

Meat and Other Foods.

All private slaughter-houses remain closed due to centralised slaughtering, but inspection of retail premises continues.

SECTION F.Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

There was no abnormal incidence of infectious disease during the past year. The number of cases of diphtheria, 5, compares favourably with 7 last year. There was an increased incidence of scarlet fever, 24 cases as compared with 19 the year before. There were no deaths from either of these diseases. No case of diphtheria had been immunised.

The following tables show the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the past year together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the total number of deaths from each of these diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1942.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	24	19	0
Diphtheria	5	5	0
Pneumonia	21	0	2
Erysipelas	6	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	0	0
Measles	89	0	0
Whooping Cough	5	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	3	3	0



# AGE DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Under 1 year.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & Over.
C.S.Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	1	0	0	0	19	3	1	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	1
Measles	1	4	6	8	2	55	10	3	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	5	3	5	4

There is a diphtheria immunisation scheme in force within the District and the following table shows the extent to which it has been used during the year :-

No. of children, under school age, immunised	...	...	...	23
No. of children, of school age, immunised	...	...	...	136
Total number of children immunised since inception of the scheme in 1941	...	...	...	543

## T U B E R C U L O S I S.

Table of New Cases and Deaths during 1941.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Up to 1 year.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 - 5	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
5 - 15	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 25	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	1
25 - 35	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
35 - 45	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 - 55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 - 65	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 & upwards.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	2	2	3	0	3	1	2

## Factories Act, 1937.

There were no certificates granted regarding fire escapes during the year.

My thanks are due to the Clerk of the Council, the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for their help in the compilation of this Report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN CLEMINSON.

Medical Officer of Health.